



LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

1001 South Valley View Boulevard
Las Vegas, NV 89153
(702) 870-2011 • lwwd.com

June 04, 2019

Muckrock News Dept MR 73465
ATTN: Beryl Lipton
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144
73465-57744144@requests.muckrock.com

RE: Records Request – Agreements, Procurement Documents, and Communications regarding ownership, operation/management responsibilities of the water systems, treatment plants, etc.

Dear Ms. Lipton,

Information Governance (IG) has received and reviewed your public records request regarding documents related to the ownership, operation and/or management responsibilities of the Las Vegas Valley Water District’s (“District”) water system and water treatment plants (collectively “Water System”).¹ Generally speaking, you requested records from three specific areas including: 1) agreements, 2) procurement, and 3) communications with other water utilities. The District is unable to provide the requested records in 5 days and estimates that it will be able to provide you the documents on or before September 16, 2019.

For items one and two, agreements and procurement, the District has no responsive documents. The District owns, operates, and manages all water systems directly and does not contract out that work.

For item three, communications with other water companies or other private water system operators, given the magnitude and scope of your request and the extraordinary use of personnel and technology required to fulfill your request, in accordance with the District’s Records Request Fee Schedule and NRS 239.052 and 239.055, the District may be charging fees for this request. Prior to calculating fees, the District would like to clarify your request pertaining to communications with “*water companies or other private water system operators*”. As such, could you answer the following questions:

- 1) Are you requesting communications to/from District staff to private water companies, public water companies, or both?
- 2) For private water companies, are you specifically looking for communications from *only* the four private systems operators listed in the request which includes Suez, Veolia, America Water, and Aqua America? Or are you looking for communications with *any* private water system operators?

¹ Please note that the District does not govern sewer or wastewater treatment; those functions are the purview of the Clark County Water Reclamation District, a separate and distinct governmental entity.

- 3) Can you describe the specific subject(s) that you are looking for in communications? As you can surmise, the District's employees regularly communicate with other water utilities (public and private) on numerous topics including, but not limited to, water rights, engineering, operation best practices, conservation, water quality and treatment, energy, security, and other topics. However, it appears that your request is focused on potential privatization of water systems. Thus, are you looking for communications relating to the solicitation to or from private water systems regarding the ownership, operation and/or management of the District's Water System? Are there any other specific subjects that you are looking for?

Responding to these questions will focus the scope of your request, avoid production of unwanted documents, lower the required fees, and speed up the District's response time.

Please email or call me to clarify your request. My direct line is 702-258-3816. I would appreciate a response by Thursday, June 11, 2019.

Sincerely,



Signa L. Gundlach
Information Governance Records Management Supervisor

SG/RS